

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown. Applicants reserve the right to pursue any cancelled claims at a later date.

1.-9. (canceled)

10. (new) A method for distributing a short message to a video user, comprising:
sending the short message to a short messages distribution center;
forwarding the message from the distribution center to a video control device that controls a service available to the video user; and
forwarding the message from the video control device to a terminal of the video user.

11. (new) The method as claimed in claim 10,
wherein an IP protocol is used in the forwarding the message between the video control device and the terminal, and
wherein the message is forwarded from the video control device to the terminal if the terminal is online.

12. (new) The method as claimed in claim 11, further comprising:
receiving a short message from the video user by the video control device;
determining that a recipient of the message is not managed by the video control device;
and
forwarding the message to the distribution center.

13. (new) The method as claimed in claim 11, further comprising:
receiving a short message from the video user by the video control device;
determining that a recipient of the message is managed by the video control device; and
forwarding the message to the recipient via an IP network and not by a mobile radio network.

14. (new) The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the message is stored at the video control device if the terminal is offline.

15. (new) The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the stored message is forwarded by video control device when the offline terminal goes online.

16. (new) The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein a PSTN call number is used as an address of the video user.

17. (new) The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein an IP address or a URI is used as an address of the video user.

18. (new) A video control device that controls a service available to a video user, a subscription mechanism that allows the video user to subscribe to a short message service;

a registration mechanism for informing a distribution center of an address of the subscribed user so that the distribution center forwards a message for the subscribed user to the video control device; and

a short message for the subscribed that is sent by the distribution center and forwarded to a terminal of the subscribed user.

19. (new) The video device as claimed in claim 18, wherein the user of the terminal is identified, and wherein the short message is forwarded to the terminal if the identified user is the video user.

20. (new) The video device as claimed in claim 19, wherein a further user has not subscribed to the device, and wherein a short message originating from the subscribed user is sent to the further user by forwarding the message to the distribution center.

21. (new) The video device as claimed in claim 19, wherein when a plurality of users have subscribed to the device including a first user and a second user, the device acts as a distribution center, and wherein a short message originating from the first user is sent to the second user via an IP network and without entering the mobile radio network.

22. (new) A distribution center for short messages, comprising:
a logon device to which a video user can be logged on via a video control device that controls a service available to the video user;
an incoming message from a mobile radio network that are addressed to the logged-on user; and
a distribution device that forwards the message to the video control device,
wherein the logged-on user is not in the mobile radio network.

23. (new) The distribution center as claimed in claim 22, wherein the address is a PSTN call number.